

Minutes
Eau Claire County
Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement
Wednesday, December 23, 2020 – 3:00 PM
Virtual Meeting via Cisco Webex

Members Present: Melissa Janssen, Sandra McKinney, Zoe Roberts, Connie Russell, and Gerald Wilkie.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Nick Smiar

Others Present: Ryan Patterson, Danielle Powers, Dave Riewestahl, Cory Schalinske, Travis Holbrook, and Eric Huse.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wilkie at 3:00 PM.

Call of the Roll

The Clerk called the roll. Attendance was noted above.

Confirmation of Public Meeting Notice

The Clerk confirmed this meeting was properly noticed to the public.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Approve Minutes from October 28, 2020 Meeting

Supervisor McKinney moved to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2020 meeting. The minutes were adopted as published in the meeting materials via 5-0 voice vote.

Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Dashboard Update

- **Dashboard Review**
 - A link to the dashboard website was included in the meeting materials. The data is completely refreshed monthly on the website with additional data being added periodically. The Committee did not have any comments related to the data.
- **Report from Supervisor Russell**
 - The full Council meet on December 16, 2020. Public comment similar to that which was presented at this meeting was heard. The Council recognized Attorneys Rich White and Dana Smetana for their contributions to the County & CJCC. The Council reviewed some of the changes in the composition of the types of crimes committed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council also discussed what changes have been employed by the Criminal Justice System and what could remain after the pandemic.

Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office Updates

- **Jail Population, Staffing, & COVID-19 Response**
 - Captain Dave Riewestahl provided an update. Population is holding steady. Bookings are flat for the recent past. 10 resignations through 2020; 3 more than the 10 year average. Mass testing in early December. All tested were negative. Low turnout from incarcerated population and staff. Vaccination is the next COVID-19 response the jail is looking at. As of now, 2nd wave of those to be inoculated are essential workers including correctional officers. Unsure where incarcerated population fits with vaccine dissemination plan outlined by State.
 - Supervisor Janssen was contacted by a constituent regarding COVID-19 vaccination of incarcerated populations. After further research on the topic, Supervisor Janssen, with assistance from Corporation Counsel, drafted a resolution requesting that the State of

Wisconsin include jail and prison staff and incarcerated individuals in the priority 1b recommendation for COVID-19 vaccinations. Committee members expressed their support for this resolution.

- **Jail Voting Guide**
 - Captain Riewestahl presented the final Eau Claire County Jail Voting Guide that was published in the meeting materials. The guide is available on the Kiosk for the incarcerated population to review.
- **Protective Status for Employees: Information, legislative history, & current outlook**
 - Captain Riewestahl provided initial information, noting that it is a multi-faceted issue that will take additional time to fully have a grasp on. Currently, 12 counties across the State that have protective status for correctional officers. The Committee discussed the potential of asking for a formal opinion from the Attorney General on the issue of whether a County can request a formal opinion on the issue.

Future Meeting Date

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2021 at 3:00 PM.

Future Agenda Items

- Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office
 - Jail Population, Staffing, & COVID-19 Response
 - Audio/Visual Recording Equipment
- Procedures/Policies for the Proper Execution of Search Warrants
- Procedures for Citizen Complaints for Eau Claire County
- Appropriate System-Wide Criminal Justice Language Presentation
- 4th Quarter Fiscal Updates from Departments
- Procedures/Policies for Officer Involved Critical Incidents

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Wilkie at 3:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Eric Huse

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Committee Clerk